

CASTRO, HELD UP, SAYS, "I'LL GO BACK"

Ex-President of Venezuela to
Sail Away on Next
Saturday.

WASHINGTON BARS HIM

He Is Not Ill and Would Not
Become a Public Charge
for Want of Money.

REAL CAUSE NOT NAMED

Takes Action Nonchalantly and
Postpones His Visit to Main-
land of This Country.

After three departments of the Government had individually and collectively said that if there was any way on earth to keep him from landing it would be employed, Gen. Cipriano Castro, former President and dictator of Venezuela, who got as far as quarantine on the Touraine yesterday morning, became convinced late in the afternoon that this Government did not want him here.

As a consequence just after a special board of inquiry had begun to ask him questions he announced that he would return to Hamburg on the first liner he could catch and that there need be no more trouble about it.

His announcement was received with favor on Ellis Island and in Washington, and so much Saturday, when the America is to sail for the German port, Gen. Castro will have the best of the immigration bureau on the island can supply, to say nothing of the use of a room specially fitted for the use of any Deputy Commissioner of Immigration who might want to stay at the place overnight.

Commissioner William Williams, who had spent a very busy day, made the announcement for the general at 4:20 yesterday afternoon in this brief way:

"After a preliminary hearing this afternoon at Ellis Island Gen. Cipriano Castro informed Commissioner Williams that he desired to return to Europe forthwith."

Although Mr. Williams would not amplify his statement nor talk to newspaper men it was generally known that the decision of the man who once ruled himself on being the Diaz of the Andes was not reached until the State Department at Washington had made certain representations that no matter what the case might be Gen. Castro was not going to land on our ordinarily hospitable shores.

Early in the morning the Treasury Department, operating through the United States Public Health Service, had made very close inquiry as to the man's physical condition and had failed to discover anything which would warrant saying that he was suffering from any ailment that would bar the entrance of an alien. Then the Department of Commerce and Labor tried it and failed, for the General could show sufficient money to prove that he was not likely to be a public charge, that he was a tourist, knew where he was going, was not a contract laborer, had never been convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude, was not a fugitive from justice and did not intend to settle in this country anyway. That left only the State Department, which has been known to be particularly strict in its attitude toward the entry of a man of this kind, and it was generally known that the State Department did not care to appear in the matter if there was any way to get out of it, but after the other departments failed there was nothing else to be done, and the diplomatic pressure was applied. When he understood it, Gen. Castro, who has had some little experience along the same general lines, bowed to the inevitable and set for steamship agents, through whom he booked his passage.

Although there was some vagueness about it, it has been generally known ever since he sailed from Havre on the French liner that Gen. Castro was allowed to land. Washington has denied unofficially that President Juan Vicente Gomez had made any request through his Minister, but it was noted for granted that Castro would not step back on the mainland. He was deported, it was said, because he was incurably ill with a blood disease which is a menace to public health. Therefore, when the Touraine showed her way up through the fog to Quarantine around 9 o'clock yesterday morning, there was speed of delegation of Public Health men from the Treasury Department waiting to meet her on the cutter Immigrant. Dr. Reed was in charge, assisted by Boarding Inspectors Moore, Corne and Sullivan, with Immigration Inspector Morgan as special Spanish interpreter.

They had no difficulty in finding the man they were after. Gen. Castro, accompanied by a polyglot companion, secretary, Alfredo Torregrosa, of Spain and France, had boarded the ship at Havre, and as L. Ruiz he had gone to cabin 122. Under that name and subsequently as Gen. Castro, on the supplemental passenger list, when the officers of the ship found out who he was, he had remained in his cabin until the ship passed Sandy Hook. According to the ship's surgeon he became seasick in the channel and was suffering all the way across. He took no meal in the dining saloon and very few anywhere. He did not walk the decks in the morning, when he appeared on a lower deck a few minutes with a towel wrapped around his head. He talked with no one but his secretary, except three young women invaded his cabin and asked for his autograph.

The General was in his cabin yesterday morning when Dr. Reed appeared. The surgeon asked the question prescribed as a matter of routine and then announced that, not being satisfied with the answers, he would examine the General for further examination. Castro made no objection to this and dressed himself slowly. The only time he showed any irritation was when he was asked if he would out something before leaving the ship. He said in Spanish, which is his only tongue, that he could not understand how any person should ever want to eat. He quit the ship with his secretary, four pieces of baggage from his cabin and a philosophic man, which gave way when the cutter began booming as she slipped away from the larger vessel. Castro reached Ellis Island shortly after 10 o'clock and was taken at once to the Emergency Hospital Dr. George W. Stoner, chief of the local United States Public Health Service, with Dr. Sprague was waiting for him. The General was taken to a private room, where the two men put him through a thorough examination for symptoms which they agreed to discover. There was the scar of a wound or two, the scar of the Berlin operation by Dr. Israel four years ago, but nothing else, and after that while the official reports were sent over to Commissioner Williams, the General was induced to consider the subject of a

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After a half hour or so on shore the ex-President got his appetite and did justice to a substantial breakfast. Then he engaged a smoke.

Shortly before 2 o'clock, with Dr. Stone, Inspector Morgan and Torregrosa, the General appeared on the seawall. Castro seemed in good spirits. He is thinner, a little grayer as to beard and a little more bald than he was eight years ago, but he appeared in good health. He wore a silk hat and his body was enveloped in a seal-skin lined overcoat which reached to his heels, and according to appraisers it was something notable in the way of overcoats. Beneath this he wore a dark sack suit and around his neck was a gray brown muffler. He swung a silver handled cane as he walked and the burden of his talk was the variety of the jumps and twists made by the Touraine in a cross sea. He seemed to be entirely easy in his mind. A man who had met him stopped him. They shook hands and tipped hats.

"I am simply here on a visit," said Castro. "The only purpose I had in coming to this country was to see if I have no plans after I leave here. I think I will travel about for three months and then return."

That was the only interview Castro

boards, appealing and reappealing for several weeks, but in the end he was not going ashore in the United States. Then he told the Commissioner that he thought it would be better for him to postpone his visit to this country and the board adjourned.

"I can frankly say that the results of the medical examination were negative," said Dr. Stoner. "We made a thorough examination and failed to discover anything which would warrant a drastic report."

"There can be no objection to the landing of the General under the immigration law," came from the Department of Commerce and Labor. There was no word from the State Department.

The plan as announced last night was to have the General enjoy himself at the island until Friday, when he will be taken up to the ship on which he will sail away.

It was suggested that Castro might come up to a hotel for the remainder of his stay with a United States Marshal as companion and a heavy bond as a reminder, but at the island it was said this action is not contemplated.

**\$159,000 OF FIRE INSURANCE
ON \$3 WORTH OF FURNITURE**

Policies Will Form Just One
Feature of Johnson's Exhibit
of Incendiarism.

When the exhibit of incendiarism of the Fire Department is opened formally by Mayor Gaynor to-morrow at 51 Chambers street there will be a revelation of how easy it is for firebugs to get large insurance policies from companies.

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GEN. CIPRIANO CASTRO



gave yesterday, for half an hour later, when he found he was not going to be released at once, he sent back word. "So long as I am a prisoner I will not talk to any one. When I am free I will be glad to see you and to give you an interview." Still later he sent word that as things were looking he would not see any one, neither friends or any one else.

The party climbed a spiral iron staircase to the special inquiry rooms where the Department of Commerce and Labor asked its questions, after which Castro and his secretary were taken up to a second class detention room, where they waited for about fifteen minutes while calls for Washington went up in the neighborhood of the Commissioner's office. At this juncture the friend who had previously greeted Castro appeared outside, because he was not allowed to remain with the General.

"If I should tell you my name," he said, "it would be telegraphed to my own country, and when I returned there, ah, they would cut off my mustache," and made a motion indicating that part of his face. He added that he was an importer and exporter, that Gen. Castro was confident that he would be released in the morning and he had engaged a

To prove how lax insurance companies have been in the issuing of insurance policies it is said that Fire Commissioner Joseph Johnson, through one of his men secured \$159,000 worth of insurance policies on the contents of a flat which could be bought anywhere for \$3.

Visitors to the exhibit will see policies written by nearly every insurance company in the city pasted upon two walls of the big room. It is said that Commissioner Johnson has a knife and fork, worth twenty cents, which was insured for tens of thousands of dollars; two wooden chairs and an oil stove insured for nearly \$50,000, and thousands of dollars worth of policies on an empty flat.

Commissioner Johnson, through his secretary, would not say anything about the exhibit yesterday save that it was to be opened Thursday. The Commissioner has said that one out of every four fires is due to incendiarism and that insurance is the motive.

Investigation into the issuing of poli-

To Strive for Better Relations Between Cuba and America.

IN the new year there will begin to direct the destinies of the United States and Cuba the men who have been recently elected to that end as an expression of a wish for a new line of political conduct on the part of both peoples, who hope from the change an era of greater prosperity.

The Administrations elected are under obligation to use the greatest efforts not to disappoint this hope.

For my part I will devote all my energies to justify the confidence my fellow citizens have placed in me and will specially strive to see that the relations between the republic of Cuba and the great American nation become each day closer and more cordial for their mutual benefit.

MARIO G. MENOCAL
PRESIDENT
ELECT OF
REPUBLIC OF
CUBA

sums of money at the Plaza for his stay. "It is official," said this friend. "An official is coming from Washington. The General will explain to him that his visit here is not political and that will end it. I am to come for him to-morrow morning," and the friend hurried off.

He had not gone very long before several other persons, speaking in Spanish, English, Spanish, French and German with equal facility, these visitors appeared very much interested in the purpose of Castro's visit.

Castro was taken into the office of Deputy Commissioner Williams himself went into the room and began to talk with Castro, varying it from time to time by talking with the State Department on the long distance phone. It is believed that he read some of the bulletins to Castro. It was reported that the General kept cool during all this time and laughed once or twice.

A special board of inquiry convened just around 4 o'clock and before long it was whispered that Castro was told in substance that, while it might not be known how it was to be done, he was going back. He might go on appearing before

B. Altman & Co.

have made a most advantageous purchase of

Winter Coats

for Misses and Small Women

These coats, which are made in the latest fashion, will be placed on sale to-morrow (Thursday) and Friday at extraordinarily low prices, as follows:

Coats of Chinchilla . . . at \$10.00

Coats of Heavy Woolens . . at 14.50

Also at decided reductions in prices, the remaining stocks of Winter styles in Misses' and Children's Garments, comprising limited quantities of Coats, Dresses, Suits, Waists, etc.

WOMEN'S AFTERNOON AND STREET DRESSES, including styles in VELVETEEN, are being offered at the reduced prices of

\$18.00, \$25.00 & \$35.00

Also TAILOR-MADE SUITS

including styles in VELVETEEN and CORDUROY

at **\$25.00 & \$35.00**

FOR TO-MORROW (THURSDAY), AN OFFERING OF

Fine Silk-striped Cotton Crepes
(36 inches wide)

showing contrasting stripes on white, black and colored grounds at **28c. per yard.**

MUSLIN EMBROIDERIES

IN SELECTIONS FOR THE SPRING AND SUMMER SEASONS ARE NOW BEING SHOWN.

B. Altman & Co.

have arranged for Monday & Tuesday

January 6th and 7th,

A Number of Highly Important Sales

the details of which will be

published on Sunday, January 5th

Fifth Avenue, 34th and 35th Streets, New York.

ties to cover property without inspecting it was begun some time ago by the Fire Department.

The Fire Department is going to be careful what it exhibits at its incendiarism show. Firebugs who come to the show with the intention of finding

out how to commit arson and get away with it will be disappointed, for there will be no physical exhibits. There will be photographs, tables, statistics and Commissioner Johnson's knife, fork, two chairs and oil stove.

The officials are now working on the department's special report on incendiarism, which will probably be published on Friday.

"PHOSBY JAY" MATCHES.

Law Forbidding Imports of White Phosphorus Sticks Begins To-day.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—The importation of matches containing white phosphorus will be forbidden after to-morrow. This is the first provision of the "phosby law" bill passed at the last session of Congress to become operative. Secretary of the Treasury MacVeagh has notified all customs collectors of the new law.

Hereafter all matches imported from abroad must be accompanied by a certificate of inspection by the Government of the country where they were made, stating they contain no white phosphorus. This official inspection certificate will not be required until April 1 next.

The exportation of white phosphorus matches will be prohibited after January 1, 1914, and one year later, on January 1, 1915, an internal revenue tax of two cents a hundred will be imposed on all white phosphorus matches.

B. Altman & Co.

THE FOLLOWING SPECIAL SALES

WILL COMMENCE TO-MORROW (THURSDAY)

JANUARY 2nd

A Very Important Sale of
Household and Decorative Linens

comprising an extensive assortment of Linen Damask Table Cloths and Napkins; Linen Sheets and Pillow Cases; Hemmed, Hemstitched and Scalloped Towels, Turkish Bath Towels; Kitchen, Glass and Pantry Towels and Towelings. Also Luncheon Sets, Centerpieces, Tea Cloths, Reception Cloths, Scarfs, etc.

Attention is particularly directed to the following, at special prices:

Table Cloths of linen damask, each . . . \$1.85, 2.25, 2.75 & 4.25

Dinner Napkins to match, per dozen . . . \$2.65, 3.40 & 5.25

Linen Sheets, hemstitched, per pair . . . \$3.50, 4.25, 5.25 & 5.75

Linen Pillow Cases, hemstitched, per pair . . . 90c, \$1.15, 1.35 & 1.50

Linen Huck Towels, hemmed, per dozen . . . \$2.40, 2.70 & 2.90

Linen Huck Towels, hemstitched, per dozen . . . \$3.00, 4.00 & 6.50

Turkish Bath Towels, hemmed, per dozen . . . \$2.40, 3.00, 3.90 & 4.80

Important Sales of Blankets, Comfortables and Bedspreads

at remarkably low prices, as follows:

White Blankets, per pair . . . \$4.25, 6.00, 7.50 to 10.00

Silk-top, Wool-filled Comfortables, each \$6.50

Satin-finish Bedspreads, hemmed, each 2.90

Satin-finish Bedspreads, scalloped, each 3.25

Crochet Bedspreads . . each \$1.00 & 1.65

An Exceptional Sale of
Muslin Sheets & Pillow Cases

at unusually low prices.

Muslin Sheets, plain, each . . . 42c., 48c., 55c., 58c. to 68c.

Muslin Pillow Cases, each . . . 11c., 12c., 13c., 14c. & 16c.

TO FACILITATE SHOPPING, SPECIAL SALES-PEOPLE WILL, IF REQUESTED, BE DETAILED TO ACCOMPANY PATRONS TO THE VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS.

ATTENTION IS DIRECTED TO THE MODERATE PRICES PREVAILING.

Fifth Avenue, 34th and 35th Streets, New York.

Receivers for Drenth & Co.
NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 31.—Jonas Miller and Maurice Dequincy were named receivers this afternoon by the United States District Court on application of the Whitney Central Trust and Banking Company and the Canal Louisiana Bank, for Drenth & Co. Earlier in the day the firm, which is engaged in cotton exporting, filed a petition in bankruptcy. The assets will amount to about \$250,000 and the liabilities to about \$762,000.

Gold Medal, London, 1911
Largest Sale HIGH GRADE Tea in the World.

Best Soil in the World for Tea Growing
It is never colored; never adulterated.

All High-Class Grocers
Order Trial Package TO-DAY

Ridgways TEA

TWO BOY SKATERS DROWN.

Ventured Too Near the Edge of Ice in Bedau.

DUNELLEN, N. J., Dec. 31.—Paul Latham, 10 years old, son of E. R. Latham of Prospect avenue, and William Russ, 13 years old, one of his chums, broke through while skating on Newmarket Pond, this afternoon, and drowned.

Newmarket Pond is a favorite rendezvous for skaters, and forty or fifty were enjoying the ice. Some of the boys were trying to see how near they could come to the edge of the open water under the Washington avenue bridge, and Latham and Russ, the latter's brother, David, who were a bit more daring, broke in together. The water is deep, and Latham and William Russ were drowned before help could come.

Howard Burdick, 17 years old, was crossing the bridge and saw the accident. He ran down the bank and jumped in without taking off even his coat. He managed to get David Russ ashore, but both boys were nearly done for, and doctors worked over them a long while before they finally brought them around. The fire department dragged the pond with grappling hooks and recovered the body of William Russ.